

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 228822
ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
/069 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/E - MR. GUERRA:LEE
APPROVED BY ARA - MR. MCNEIL
ARA/AND - MR. STEVEN

-----052284 090445Z /12

P R 090052Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 228822

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EC

SUBJECT: ECUADOREAN EMBASSY REACTION TO ALLEGED US EMBAS-
SY INTERFERENCE IN ELECTORAL PROCESS

1. ECUADOREAN CHARGE SEVILLA BORJA CALLED DESK TODAY TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER ALLEGED ARTETA CHARGE. HE SAID THAT AT THIS DELICATE TIME, ANY ACCUSATION OF THIS TYPE COULD PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF ELEMENTS OPPOSED TO THE RETORNO. THE DESK REPLIED USING A SHORTENED VERSION OF THE EMBASSY'S EXCELLENT PRESS RELEASE OF SEPTEMBER 5 (REFTEL B) AND SOME OF THOSE FACTS THAT ARE PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE CONTAINED IN REFTEL A. SEVILLA BORJA SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE EMBASSY'S POSITION BUT THAT HE HOPED THE EMBASSY'S CONTACTS WITH POLITICIANS IN ECUADOR COULD BE MINIMIZED. HE WAS TOLD THAT EMBASSY INTERCHANGES OF OPINION ARE A NORMAL FUNCTION OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION, AND SUCH MEETINGS CANNOT BE INTERPRETED AS SIGNIFYING PREFERENCE FOR ANY PARTICULAR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 228822

CANDIDATE MUCH LESS INTERVENTION.

2. UPON HEARING ABOUT THIS CONVERSATION, MCNEIL CALLED SEVILLA BORJA. IN A FRIENDLY WAY HE TOLD HIM THAT WE WONDERED IF HE WASN'T TAKING THESE WILD ACCUSATIONS TOO SERIOUSLY. AFTER ALL, HE KNEW THAT EMBASSIES EVERYWHERE HAD CONTACTS WITH SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL GROUPS AND THIS WAS

NORMAL AND NECESSARY. WE HAD NO REPEAT NO PARTISAN PREFERENCES; WE DID HAVE A PREFERENCE FOR DEMOCRACY, BUT THAT WAS NO SECRET. PEOPLE MADE FALSE CHARGES ABOUT THE US FROM TIME TO TIME AND WE TOOK THEM IN OUR STRIDE. SEVILLA BORJA ADMITTED ALL THIS WAS TRUE, THAT THE INCIDENT AS WELL AS THE CHARGE WAS MANUFACTURED FOR SHORT-TERM POLITICAL GAIN. HE CONFESSED A GENERAL PREOCCUPATION THAT NOTHING UNTOWARD OCCUR THAT MIGHT BE USED TO UPSET THE RETORNO PROCESS. MCNEIL ASSURED HIM THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY QUITO WERE OF ONE MIND ABOUT BEING PRUDENT, THOUGH WE WOULD NOT BE INTIMIDATED FROM CONDUCTING NORMAL DIPLOMATIC BUSINESS. MCNEIL SUGGESTED THAT WE OUGHT TO TREAT THE WHOLE THING CALMLY AND NOT WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT IT. SEVILLA BORJA AGREED THAT IT WAS PARTICULARLY UNFAIR TO ATTACK THE POLCOUNSELOR WHO IN FACT HAD DONE SO MUCH TO HELP THE IMPROVEMENT OF US-ECUADOR RELATIONS THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE. HE ENDED BY SAYING THAT HE HAD REPORTED TO PRESIDENT POVEDA ON THE VERY WARM RECEPTION HE HAD RECEIVED FROM AMBASSADOR VAKY WHEN HE PRESENTED POVEDA'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, ALLEGATIONS, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE228822
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MR. GUERRA:LEE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780367-0484
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780984/aaaacrmc.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fc777053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1492887
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECUADOREAN EMBASSY REACTION TO ALLEGED US EMBAS- SY INTERFERENCE IN ELECTORAL PROCESS
TAGS: PINT, EC, US
To: QUITO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc777053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014